

101 Things You Didn't Know Could Harm Your Pet

Make your home a safer place for your pets by keeping them away from the following hazardous household items, plants, foods, objects, and trouble areas.

If you think your pet has been exposed to a poisonous substance, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center can help. Call 1-888-426-4435 (any time, 24/7), and consult with your veterinarian for follow-up care. It may save your pet's life. For more poison prevention information, visit www.asPCA.org.

Household Items

1. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications (ibuprofen, aspirin, etc.)

13. Lighter fluid

2. Acetaminophen

14. Mothballs

3. Cold and flu medications

15. Anti-cancer drugs

4. Antidepressants

16. Solvents (paint thinners, etc.)

5. Vitamins

17. Flea and tick products

6. Home insect products

18. Drain cleaners

7. Rat and mouse bait

19. Liquid potpourri

8. Bleach

20. Slug and snail bait

9. Diet pills

21. Oven cleaner

10. Disinfectants

22. Lime/scale

11. Fabric softener

23. Fly bait

12. Lead

24. Detergents

25. Tobacco products

Common Plants

26.

Aloe

Amaryllis

Andromeda Japonica

Asian Lily

Asparagus Fern

Australian Nut

Autumn Crocus

Azalea
Belladonna
Bird of Paradise
Bittersweet
Black Locust
Branching Ivy
Buckeye
Buddhist Pine
Caladium
Calla lily
Castor Bean
Ceriman
Clematis
Cordatum
Corn Plant
Cycads
Cyclamen
Daffodil
Daylily
Devil's Ivy

Dieffenbachia
Dumbcane
Easter Lily
Elephant Ears
Emerald Fern
English Ivy
Eucalyptus
Ferns
Fiddle-Leaf Philodendron
Gold Dust Dracaena
Florida Beauty
Foxglove
Glacier Ivey
Galdiolas
Golden Pothos
Heavenly Bamboo
Honeysuckle
Hurricane Plant
Hyacinth
Hydrangea

Iris
Jerusalem Cherry
Jimson Weed
Kalanchoe
Lantana
Lillies (all lilium species)
Lily of the valley
Lupine

Marble Queen Pothos

Morning Glory
Mother-in-law
Mountain Laurel
Narcissus
Needlepoint Ivy
Nephthysis
Nightshade
Oleander
Panda
Peace Lily
P hilodendron
Poison Hemlock
Precatory Bean (rosary pea)
Privet
Red Emerald
Rhododendron
Ribbon Plant
Sago Palm
Satin Pothos
Schefflera
Striped Dracaena
Sweetheart Ivy
Tulip
Water Hemlock
Wisteria
Yew
Yucca

Hazards in the Home

You should never let your dogs or cats eat any of these foods. Be sure to store them where

your pets can't find them

27. Avocado

35. Alcoholic beverages

28. Chocolate (all forms)

36. Moldy/spoiled foods

29. Coffee

37. Salt

30. Onions & onion powder

38. Fatty foods

31. Garlic

39. "Sugar-free" gum, candies or other foods sweetened with Xylitol

32. Grapes

40. Tea leaves

33. Raisins

41. Raw yeast dough

34. Macadamia nuts

Objects

42. Balls (specifically balls that are small or have a smooth outer coating)

51. Nylons

43. Batteries

52. Paper clips, push pins & other office supplies

44. Bread twist ties

53. Plastic wrap & plastic bags

45. Buttons

54. Socks

46. Coins

55. Rubber-bands

47. Cotton swabs

56. Sharp objects (knives, razors, scissors, nails, needles, etc.)

48. Glass

57. String, yarn, dental floss, Christmas-tree tinsel

49. Hair pins

58. Towels and blankets* (can fray dangerously)

50. Jewelry

59. Wax (candles, crayons, etc.)

Trouble Areas

60. Balconies & stairs - Tall balconies without safety railings, or railings spaced too far apart, can lead to a dangerous or fatal fall.

61. Bath tubs or sinks - Small pets can drown in full bathtubs or sinks.

62. Doors and windows - Dogs and cats can run away if they find an open door or window. They can also get seriously injured if they run across a busy road. Windows should have screens to prevent cats or other pets from falling out.

63. Electrical cords - Your pets can be electrocuted if they bite or chew on electrical cords that are plugged in.

64. Fireplace - Your pets can be burned by the flames or get sick if they eat the ashes.

65. Toilets - Toilet water is not healthy for pets to drink; always remember to close the lid. Make sure you leave plenty of clean, fresh water for your pets if you must leave them home alone.

66. Washer and dryer - Your pets can crawl into a washer or dryer without your knowledge; close the doors to these appliances when you're not using them.

** Trash cans - Pets love to get into the trash, where they can find all sorts of nasty and dangerous discards! Keep such things only in covered cans your pet cannot get into, and keep small trash cans emptied frequently, and placed where the pet can't reach them.

Outside the Home

67. Algae - can be found in ponds or other bodies of water; certain forms can be toxic.

68. Antifreeze/Coolant - some types of antifreeze or coolant products contain ethylene glycol, which is highly toxic to dogs and cats, even in small amounts.

69. Fire pit/Grill - flames can result in serious burns and ashes can cause illness if ingested.

70. Fences or gates - your pets can run away if they find openings in damaged fences or gates, or if they dig under one - check your fences frequently. They can also get hurt or strangled if they get stuck.

71. Deck lattice - your dogs or cats can get stuck in the openings under your deck and possibly be strangled.

72. De-icing salts - some formulations may contain chemicals that are hazardous to pets if ingested in large amounts (including licking the substance from their feet and fur). Look for "pet-friendly" de-icing salts.

73. Compost (particularly if moldy)

74. Gasoline

75. Oil

76. Pesticides - including herbicides applied to your lawn

77. Cocoa bean shell mulch/fertilizer

78. Swimming pools and hot tubs - NEVER leave your pet unattended near uncovered pools, even if they can swim - they can't always climb out, and can't swim forever. Also,

many contain chemicals which can sicken or kill animals if swallowed, or cause skin problems.

Holiday Hazards

Help your pets enjoy the holidays safely by keeping them away from potential problems on these special days.

79. Alcohol - Alcoholic beverages are toxic to pets and should NEVER be given to them during the holidays or any other time.

Valentine's Day

80. Flowers and candy - Many types of flowers and plants found in bouquets are harmful to dogs and cats if they are ingested (see the above list of hazardous plants). Chocolate can cause vomiting, diarrhea, hyperactivity, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors and seizures, and, in severe cases, chocolate poisoning can be fatal.

Easter

81. Fake grass - This colorful "grass" may look appetizing to your pets, but it could cause them to choke, or obstruct and possibly strangulate their intestines if ingested.

82. Small toys and other plastic items - If swallowed, small toys and plastic Easter eggs can cause your pet to choke or even damage their intestinal tracts.

4th of July

83. Fireworks - Fireworks can scare your pets, making them run off, or cause serious injuries if detonated near them. Many formulations are also toxic if ingested.

Halloween

84. Repeatedly opening doors to greet trick-or-treaters can increase the chances of your pets running out. Keep an eye on their whereabouts at all times. If feasible, keep cats in a secure area or closed room when opening doors.

85. Candles - Pets are naturally curious, and may be attracted to the bright lights of the flame in dark areas. Dogs and cats could either burn themselves by the flame or knock the candle over, starting a fire.

86. Xylitol - Candy or gum and even baked goods sweetened with xylitol (typically sold as "sugar-free") are toxic even in very small quantities and should be kept away from your pets.

87. All forms of chocolate can be harmful to your pet, potentially resulting in poisoning or even pancreatic inflammation from the high fat content.

Thanksgiving

88. Bones - Turkey, chicken and other small animal bones are very different from the large bones you find at the pet store. These small bones splinter easily and can cause serious internal damage if swallowed, so NEVER give them to your pet.

89. Hot containers - Your dog or cat will most likely become curious when they smell something cooking. Keep an eye on hot containers so that your pet does not tip them over and get burned.

Christmas

90. Holiday plants - Christmas rose, holly, lilies, poinsettias and mistletoe are all toxic to dogs and cats.

91. Ribbons - It may look adorable, but placing a ribbon around your pet's neck may cause them to choke.

92. Bubbling lights - Older forms of this attractive decoration may contain methylene chloride, which is a highly toxic chemical.

93. Fire salts - Contain chemicals that could be harmful to pets.

94. Angel hair (spun glass) - Can be irritating to eyes and skin, and could cause intestinal obstruction if eaten in large amounts.

95. Christmas tree water - Stagnant tree water or water containing preservatives could result in stomach upset if ingested.

96. Decoration hooks - Can cause blockage and/or trauma to gastrointestinal tract if swallowed.

97. Styrofoam - Can cause your pets to choke if swallowed.

98. Tinsel - Can cause choking or internal trauma if swallowed.

New Year's

100. Balloons and confetti - These fun New Year's party decorations can cause your pets to choke or obstruct their intestines if ingested. Keep an eye on your pets when they're around these items, or move them to an area that is not decorated.

101. Loud noises - New Year's is typically a noisy holiday. Unfortunately, loud noises frighten pets and can cause them to run off. Keep your pets in a separate room, away from noisemakers, music, and other loud sounds that may startle them

